AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

1-22. (Cancelled).

23. (Previously Presented) A method of processing a transaction carried out over a network between a financial account holder and a participating entity, said method comprising the steps of:

(a) receiving a purchase request of a buyer from the participating entity indicating that the buyer desires to carry out a transaction with the entity, said transaction including the buyer purchasing one or more selected items;

(b) authenticating the buyer as the financial account holder;

(c) establishing transaction fulfillment data, said transaction fulfillment data indicating a delivery destination for the selected items, wherein establishing the transaction fulfillment data includes using a previously obtained destination as the delivery destination for the selected items when an alternate destination is not obtained;

(d) communicating the transaction fulfillment data to the participating entity;

(e) receiving transaction details from the participating entity, said transaction details including a cost for the selected items;

(f) authorizing completion of the transaction and establishing an authorization code therefor; and,

(g) communicating the authorization code for the transaction to the participating entity.

24. (Original) The method according to claim 23, wherein establishing the fulfillment data further includes:

obtaining an alternate destination from the buyer, said alternate destination being different from the previously obtained destination;

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transmitting a security question to the buyer;

receiving a response to the security question from the buyer; and,

using the alternate destination as the delivery destination for the selected items when the response to the security question is accurate.

25.   (Cancelled).

26.   (Previously Presented)   A method of processing transactions carried out over a network between account holders and participating entities, said method comprising the steps of:

(a)   obtaining restriction instructions from account holders;

(b)   receiving a purchase request of a buyer from a participating entity indicating that the buyer desires to carry out a transaction with the entity, said transaction including the buyer purchasing one or more selected items;

(c)   authenticating the buyer as an account holder;

(d)   receiving transaction details from the participating entity, said transaction details including one or more terms for the purchase;

(e)   authorizing completion of the transaction and establishing an authorization code therefor; and,

(f)   communicating the authorization code for the transaction to the participating entity.

27.   (Previously Presented)   The method according to claim 26, wherein said restriction instructions block authorizing the completion of transactions with participating entities identified in the restriction instructions.

28.   (Original)   The method according to claim 26, wherein said restriction instructions block authorizing the completion of recurring transactions which are not separately participated in by the account holder from whom the restriction instructions were obtained.

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29.   (Previously Presented)   The method according to claim 26, wherein authorizing completion of the transaction includes comparing a cost of the selected items to a threshold such that if the cost is less than or equal to the threshold authorization is given and if the cost if greater than the threshold authorization is denied.

30.   (Previously Presented)   The method according to claim 29, wherein the threshold represents an amount selected from a group consisting of funds on deposit for the account holder, credit available to the account holder, and a value set via the obtained restriction instructions.

31.   (Previously Presented)   A method of processing transactions carried out over a network between account holders and participating entities, said method comprising the steps of:

(a)   receiving a purchase request of a buyer from a participating entity indicating that the buyer desires to carry out a transaction with the entity, said transaction including the buyer purchasing one or more selected items;

(b)   authenticating the buyer as an account holder;

(c)   receiving transaction details from the participating entity, said transaction details including a cost for the purchase;

(d)   authorizing completion of the transaction and establishing an authorization code therefor, wherein authorizing completion of the transaction and establishing an authorization code therefor includes:

transmitting the transaction details of the authenticated account holder directly to a funding source which determines if the account holder has one of sufficient funds on deposit with the funding source or sufficient credit available through the funding source to cover the cost of the purchase; and,

receiving the authorization code from the funding source; and,

(e)   communicating the authorization code for the transaction to the participating entity.

32. (Previously Presented) A method of processing transactions carried out over a network between account holders and participating entities, wherein said method comprises:

(a) receiving a request indicating that a buyer desires to carry out a transaction with a participating entity, said transaction including the buyer purchasing one or more selected items;

(b) authenticating the buyer as an account holder;

(c) receiving transaction details including one or more terms for the purchasing the selected items;

(d) authorizing completion of the transaction and establishing an authorization code therefor;

(e) communicating the authorization code for the transaction to the participating merchant;

(f) obtaining settlement information from the participating entity, said settlement information including the authorization code and transaction details for the completed transaction;

(g) confirming that the transaction details corresponding to the authorization code received with the settlement information are within a desired tolerance; and,

(h) communicating the confirmed settlement information to a funding source to effect reimbursement of the participating entity and billing of the account holder.

33. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 32, wherein obtaining the settlement information includes automatically capturing the settlement information from the participating entity upon an indication of delivery of the selected items.

34. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 32, wherein step (b) precedes step (a).

35.   (Previously Presented)   The method according to claim 32, wherein authenticating the buyer as an account holder includes:

synchronizing a token with a periodically changing non-predictable code;

providing the account holder with the token, said token displaying the periodically changing non-predictable code;

receiving a code communicated by the buyer; and,

comparing the received code with the periodically changing non-predictable code to authenticate the buyer as the account holder when the received code matches the periodically changing non-predictable code.

36.   (Previously Presented)   The method according to claim 23, wherein the transactions are at least partially carried out over a public network.

37.   (Cancelled).

38.   (Previously Presented)   The method according to claim 26, wherein the transactions are at least partially carried out over a public network.

39.   (Previously Presented)   The method according to claim 31, wherein the transactions are at least partially carried out over a public network.

40.   (Previously Presented)   The method according to claim 32, wherein the transactions are at least partially carried out over a public network.

41.   (Previously Presented)   A system for processing a transaction carried out over a network between a financial account holder and a seller, said system comprising:

means for receiving a purchase request of a buyer from the seller indicating that the buyer desires to carry out a transaction with the seller, said transaction including the buyer purchasing one or more selected items;

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means for authenticating the buyer as the financial account holder;

means for establishing transaction fulfillment data, said transaction fulfillment data indicating a delivery destination for the selected items;

means for communicating the transaction fulfillment data to the seller;

means for receiving transaction details from the seller, said transaction details including a cost for the selected items;

means for authorizing completion of the transaction and establishing an authorization code therefor; and,

means for communicating the authorization code for the transaction to the seller.

42.   (Previously Presented)   The system according to claim 41, wherein the transactions are at least partially carried out over a public network.